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IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1, 6, 14, 18-20 and 23-29 without prejudice.

The listing of claims below will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) A functionalized heparin-binding protein comprising a heparin-binding protein and at least one sugar chain covalently bonded thereto,

said at least one covalently bonded sugar chain being selected from the group consisting of a sulfated polysaccharide, a glycosaminoglycan and an O-linked sugar chain,

said heparin-binding protein comprising (a) a proteoglycan core protein or a part thereof, to which said sugar chain is bonded, and (b) the portion of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 starting with Asn at number 88 and ending with Asp at number 221,

wherein the DNA synthesis promoting activity of the heparin-binding protein is increased by adding the at least one covalently bonded sugar chain.

31-33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously Presented) The functionalized heparin-binding protein of claim 30, wherein the at least one sugar chain is heparan sulfate.

35. (Previously Presented) The functionalized heparin-binding protein of claim 30, wherein the functionalized heparin-binding protein has improved stability over an unmodified heparin-binding protein.

36. (Previously Presented) The functionalized heparin-binding protein of claim 35, wherein the stability is chosen from among the group consisting of thermostability, acid resistance, alkalai resistance and resistance to proteolytic enzymes.

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37. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition containing the functionalized heparin-binding protein of claim 30 as an active ingredient.